

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1062
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
RECOVERY OF DUES BY SECL
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the South Eastern Coalfield Limited (SECL) has been unable to recover dues pending against various Ex- Service Men (ESM) companies and other contractors for many years on account of providing lease rent, electricity, maintenance and water supply even after audit objections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total amount yet to be recovered from ESM companies and other contractors; and
- (d) the steps taken by the SECL in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): An audit para was raised by the commercial audit indicating therein the non-recovery of electricity charges of Rs.28,80,000 and Rs.31,20,000 towards rent and water charges from the Ex-Servicemen companies deployed at Gevra and Dipka Opencast Projects of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), during October, 2000 to September, 2004. Accordingly, a committee was constituted to examine the issue of recovery of electricity charges, ground rent for workshop/office, house and water etc. provided to Ex-Servicemen transport companies. The committee has recommended the recovery of Rs.35,80,340 towards electricity charges during the period October, 2000 to September, 2004. So far, Rs.24,56,370 have been recovered and the balance amount of Rs.11,23,970 which was to be recovered from the ESM transport companies could not be recovered as some of them have completed their tenure and wound up their operations in SECL. Concerned ESM companies have been asked to deposit the outstanding amount and the Director General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence, who sponsored the ESM companies, has been requested to take necessary action to help recover the amount from the concerned ESM companies.

As far as recovery of other dues such as ground rent for workshop/office, house, water charges are concerned, the committee did not recommend any amount for recovery since the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between DGR & Coal India Limited was not specific in this regard. However, it was decided to incorporate necessary changes in MoU in future dealings.